REMARKS

The claims have been amended to include status identifiers, as well as to eliminate multiple claim dependency and to conform to the standards of US practice.

An early examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0562.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 1-29-07

John P. Shannon

Registration No. 29,276

Merek, Blackmon & Voorhees, LLC 673 South Washington Street Alexandria, VA 22314 (703) 684-5633 Customer No. 48234

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents

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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on 1-29-07

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ohn P. Shannon